

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-56664 JB/em

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 3-18-47 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/22; 12/12/46 | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> b7C |
| TITLE CHANGED: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was: Lev. Gleason, Alexander Lev | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Additional background information obtained from Local Draft Board #751 North Tarrytown, N.Y. "N.Y. World Telegram" defending suit against Telegram and FREDERICK WOLTMAN by subject, with information reported to be in their possession that subject is CP member under name of ALEXANDER LEV. Subject continues active in JAFRC and as publisher of NEW CASTLE NEWS and READERS SCOPE MAGAZINE. Handwriting specimens forwarded to Bureau.

- P* -

REFERENCES:

Bureau file 100-165971.
Report of Special Agent New York, 7/3/46. b7C

DETAILS:

The title of this case has been changed to reflect the subject's true name as LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, as obtained from Selective Service files and to indicate his aliases as Lev. Gleason and Alexander Lev, and to delete the name of LEVERETT S. GLEASON.

Photographic copies of material appearing in the Selective Service file pertaining to the subject at Local Draft Board #751 North Tarrytown, New York, were submitted to the Bureau by letter dated January 17, 1947. Information contained in the Selective Service file revealed that the subject's true name is LEVERETT STONE GLEASON. He was born on February 25, 1898, at Winchendon, Massachusetts. He was married to MARGARET GLEASON on September 20, 1941 at Stamford, Conn. He was previously married to MARIE C. GLEASON in 1924

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward J. Smith</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York 210 <i>cc 3-29-47 J. J. [unclear]</i> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100px; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; font-weight: bold;">RECORDED</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; right: 0; font-weight: bold;">INDEXED</div> <div style="position: absolute; left: 0; bottom: 0; transform: rotate(-45deg); font-weight: bold;">COPY IN FILE</div> </div> | |
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RECEIVED BY 60267 NLS BAW/pe
 6/2/47

NY 100-56664

and was divorced from her and pays alimony to her by a court order. At The time of registration on February 14th, 1942, subject advised that he was employed as a publisher, the name of his organization being COMIC HOUSE, INC., 114 East 32nd Street, New York City. GLEASON stated that he has been an editor and publisher since 1923 and that he was a tavern proprietor for one year in 1939. LEVEPETT STONE GLEASON attended PHILLIP ANLOVER ACADEMY for one year, Harvard University for one year and Sorbonne University in Paris, France for five months. He saw service in the Army during the first World War from April 26, 1917 to September 4, 1919, receiving an honorable discharge. GLEASON was inducted into the Army on June 18, 1942 at New York City and was discharged on March 3, 1943 at Grenier Field, Manchester, N.H. He was discharged in order to obtain employment with the OHLSON METAL PRODUCTS CO., Cambridge, Mass. He received a permit to leave the United States for Mexico for the purposes of a vacation, from August 15, 1943 to September 8, 1943. It was noted that at this time the subject was previously reported to have attended a conference of the JAFRC at Mexico City. The subject was discharged from the Army as a corporal.

[redacted] advised on December 12, 1946, that b2
a letter addressed to LEVEPETT GLEASON, c/o the NEWCASTLE NEWS, Chappaqua, New York, was postmarked Islington, Mass. on December 9, 1946, bearing the b7D
return address of [redacted] Islington, Mass.
The letter stated: b7C

"Dear Lev,

I've got the dope on Wally and will leave the stuff with Welen's. Will see you in the store 9 A.M. Saturday, December 14; Be there.

/s/ Rog."

The informant advised that WELLEN's is a drug store and stationery store located in Chappaqua and the Informant offered the opinion that the subject probably was meeting someone there each Saturday morning. Regarding the individual termed as "Wally" in the letter, the informant also offered the opinion that this might refer to either HENRY WALLACE former Vice-President and Secretary of Commerce, or [redacted] b7C

The Informant pointed out that GLEASON in his local newspaper has been carrying on a crusade against the READERS DIGEST, alleging that the DIGEST is anti-labor and pro-capitalist. The Informant also advised that information had been received to the effect that the New York World Telegram in defending its suit by GLEASON against the World Telegram and FREDERICK LOLTMAN, in the Supreme Court, New York County, had filed a defense

NY 100-56664

brief. According to the informant, the attorneys for GLEASON were listed as WOLF, PIPPIE, BOSS and WOLF, 160 Broadway, New York City, New York. In filing their defense brief, the WORLD TELEGRAM alleged that the plaintiff under the name of LEVERETT S. GLEASON was and has been a pro-Red and a pro-Communist fellow traveller. They stated that under the name of ALEXANDER LEV, GLEASON became a member of the Communist Party in or about the year 1939. They also alleged that under the name LEVERETT S. GLEASON, and giving the address of 110 Christopher Street, New York City, he signed the nominating petition for one ISRAEL AMTER for Councilman of the City of New York, and that ISRAEL AMTER was then and is now a well known and publicly acknowledged Communist, who has held high office in the Communist Party for many years.

WORLD TELEGRAM alleged that in or about 1943, GLEASON became associated with a magazine named LEADERS SCOPE as editor and editorial director. They allege that the LEADERS SCOPE is also a Communist front periodical of the digest type, published by pro-Communists and fellow travellers. Further alleged in their defense brief, that GLEASON has been a pro-Communist and fellow traveller for many years and became affiliated with the Communist Party in or about the year 1933. They stated he is in full sympathy with the Communist doctrine which advocates the use of force and violence to smash and destroy the roots of the United States. They further stated that it was the pursuit of this policy of hypocrisy deceit that caused the plaintiff, using the name LEVERETT S. GLEASON to become affiliated with and work for the Communist Party.

The files of the New York Field Division were checked for information under the name of ALEXANDER LEV. It was determined that an individual by the name of ALEXANDER LEV was Business Manager for a publication known as SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY. He was employed by the SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC., located at 114 East 32nd Street, New York City. It is pointed out that this is the same address where GLEASON presently maintains his publishing business.

Further information located in the New York files revealed that on the evening of March 19, 1937, a meeting was held at MECCA TEMPLE, New York City, sponsored by the publication SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY. The meeting was addressed by ALEXANDER LEV and others. The meeting was held for the purpose of promoting the sale of the publication SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY.

Special Agent [redacted] ascertained from [redacted] Staff Writer for the New York World Telegram, that LEVERETT GLEASON, when he was known as ALEXANDER LEV was Manager of SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY from 1933 to 1939. According to [redacted] GLEASON signed Communist Party petition under the name of LEVERETT GLEASON and at one time was Campaign Manager for the Communist Party. With regard to the libel suit filed by GLEASON, [redacted]

b7C

NY 100-56664

stated that GLEASON filed a bill of particulars and the New York World Telegram filed an answer. It was Mr. FRANK's belief that no further action would be taken by GLEASON in furtherance of the suit.

[redacted] A review of the New York files revealed that according to LEVHEIT GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., located at 114 East 32nd Street, b2 New York City, Room 305, had as Directors LEVERETT S. GLEASON, [redacted] [redacted] This corporation according to the informant was formed on April 17th, 1946, in New York for the purpose of merging into one corporation MAGAZINE HOUSE, COMIC HOUSE, INC., POY COMIC, INC., and READERS SCOPE MAGAZINE. The informant advised that b7C READERS SCOPE MAGAZINE was formed on September 26, 1945, by [redacted] and [redacted] and GLEASON. [redacted] and GLEASON are reported to have withdrawn and do not appear as principals in the corporation. The officers in the corporation held the same positions in TELEDrama, INC., 114 East 32nd Street, New York City, formed in New York on July 16th, 1945, to produce silent films with musical backgrounds of various comic characters appearing in LEV GLEASON publications.

The files appearing in the New York Field Division indicate that various items appearing from time to time in the READERS SCOPE MAGAZINE are allegedly pro-Communist and that various staff writers and writers submitting articles for the magazine are allegedly pro-Communist. The PEOPLE's VOICE for August 5th, 1944, reflected an interview by TED ZITEL, captioned "SCOPE EDITOR LIBERAL". This article indicated that ZITEL felt that the READERS DIGEST was anti-Labor and anti-negro, and that the READERS SCOPE, as against the READERS DIGEST, was a liberal publication of the digest type. ZITEL interviewed GLEASON to obtain information for his article and stated that GLEASON is a tall New Englander, a veteran of both World Wars, a fast thinker who has been a stock broker, a Broadway restaurateur, a comic book publisher, as well as the publisher of three fast selling paper covered books entitled, "THE INCREDIBLE TITO", by HOWARD FAST, "WHEN AND HOW THE WAR WILL END" by JOHANNES STEELE and "SABOTAGE", by MICHAEL SAYERS and ALBERT KAIN. GLEASON stated in the interview that many years ago he worked for a stock exchange firm editing its monthly paper to the clients. He advised that he was very unhappy and wanted to get into the publishing business. He stated that he was a Bostonian but of Democratic tradition, and that his people for many generations had lived in the United States. GLEASON stated that those of us who are fighting JIM CROW and other minority discriminations are the abolitionists of our time. ZITEL then went on to quote several articles which had appeared in GLEASON's first issues of the READERS SCOPE, indicating that he was entirely liberal and anti-fascist.

Information also contained in the New York files reveals that GLEASON, along with [redacted] sponsored an entertainment b7C program on behalf of the JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE for the SPANISH

NY 100-56664

REFUGEE APPEAL, at Lake Mahopac, New York, on August 17, 1946. At this affair they were successful in raising \$2,150.00 for the SPANISH REFUGEE APPEAL. It is pointed out that this program caused considerable adverse publicity at Lake Mahopac, New York.

Information also appeared in the New York Field Division files that the subject's name and business address [redacted]

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[redacted] advised that on September 20, 1946, GLEASON held a conference with THEODORE BAYER, Administrative Secretary of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC. During this conference they discussed the resignation of HENRY WALLACE as Secretary of Commerce and the possibility of holding a rally for him at the Yankee Stadium, New York City. According to this conference they indicated that they intended to build WALLACE into a new ROOSEVELT. They also indicated that they intended to work toward forcing the resignation of JAMES F. BYRNES, as Secretary of State.

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On October 7th, 1946, [redacted] advised that GLEASON had joined the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS Post, located at Thornwood, New York. The informant advised that GLEASON was attempting to use the VFW as against the AMERICAN LEGION POST at Chappaqua.

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[redacted] advised that on October 11th, 1946, GLEASON held a conference with [redacted] of the JAFRC. This conference was regarding the signing of checks of the New York Chapter of the JAFRC by GLEASON. [redacted] stated that the JAFRC considers the Women's Division to be the New York Chapter. GLEASON at the time of the conference stated that he is willing to sign checks for the JAFRC.

b2

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[redacted] advised that on November 15, 1946, GLEASON held a conference with [redacted] of the AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, INC. The conference held made reference to a conference of [redacted] with one [redacted] (phonetic) the latter having been referred to [redacted] by GLEASON. According to [redacted] is engaged in some activity which would place him within the purview of the FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT. However, [redacted] apparently had not registered as yet as a foreign agent. Mention was also made of one [redacted] (phonetic) who is apparently associated in some degree with [redacted]. However, according to [redacted] was registered as a foreign agent.

b2

b7C

- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-5666

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT CHAPPAQUA, NEW YORK

Will follow and report subject's activities.

NY 100-56664

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants mentioned in the report of
Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, March 18, 1947, b7C
are as follows:

[redacted]

Chappaqua, New York, designated as an informant at
her own request.

b2

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[redacted]

b2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-56664

JLK

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|---|--|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT <p style="text-align: center;">NEW YORK</p> | DATE WHEN MADE <p style="text-align: center;">5/5/47</p> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <p style="text-align: center;">11/18/46; 3/21/47</p> | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: right;">b7C</p> |
| TITLE <p>LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, with aliases: Lev Gleason, Alexander Lev</p> | | | CHARACTER OF CASE <p style="text-align: center;">INTERNAL SECURITY - C</p> |
| <p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GLEASON born 2/25/98 Winchendon, Mass. His parents both native born Americans. His wife U.S. born, but her parents both natives of Ireland. Subject continues as Editorial Director of "Reader's Scope" and maintains office at Lev Gleason Publications, 114 East 32 St., NYC. He is also publisher of "New Castle News", Bedford Road, Chappaqua, NY. Resides on Park Drive, Chappaqua, NY.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P* -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Bureau file #100-165971. SAC letter #28, Series 1946. 3/12/46. b7C Report of Special Agent New York, 3/18/47.</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Birth records of the Town Clerk at Winchendon, Massachusetts, reflect that LEVERETT STONE GLEASON was born on February 25, 1898, the son of MARDIS E. STONE, a physician and a native of Warren, Vermont and the former JOSEPHINE L. STONE, a native of New York City.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">With regard to subject's present wife, his second, the former MARGARET CAWLEY, Birth Certificate #30706 was examined at the Department of Health, 125 Worth Street, New York City. This certificate disclosed that BABY CAWLEY, a female, was born on June 29, 1905 in New York City. Her father, JAMES CAWLEY and her mother, the former JOSEPHINE MURRY, were both noted as having been born in Ireland.</p> | | | |
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 5px auto; text-align: center;">Edward Schindler</div> | | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> | |
| COPIES DESTROYED 2-2-59 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> | | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT <p>5 Bureau 3 New York</p> | | <p style="text-align: right;">RECORDED</p> | |

G. I. R. - 9

60267NLS/AAW/24
10/20/03

NY 100-56664

On March 21, 1947, it was ascertained that the subject continues in his capacity as Editorial Director of "Readers Scope" which is published from the office of LEV GLEASON Publications, 114 East 32nd Street, New York City. It was also determined that he is publisher of the "New Castle News", Bedford Road, Chappaqua, New York.

On the same day, it was ascertained that the subject resides on Park Drive, Chappaqua, New York.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-56664

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK

At Chappaqua, New York

Will follow and report subject's future activities.

RE:

b7C

Readers Scope Magazine
114 West Thirty-Second Street
New York, New York

CM
Reference is made to the telegram dated April 29, 1947, from the captioned individual requesting permission to have exclusive rights to reprint the Director's article entitled "How Good A Parent Are You?" which appeared in This Week Magazine on April 20, 1947.

File 100-329561 reflects that Leverett S. Gleason is President of Lev Gleason Publications, Incorporated, which organization publishes the Readers Scope Magazine. Gleason is described as having supported the Communist Party for a number of years and as being a Director of the Peoples Radio Foundation, Incorporated, which allegedly was set up by the Communists for the purpose of establishing FM Radio Stations in the United States to disseminate propaganda.

He was one of the seventeen Directors of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and was held in contempt by the House of Representatives for failure to produce records before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He was indicted on March 31, 1947, on two counts: conspiracy to commit contempt and actual contempt of the Committee.

He is described as having been in contact with known Communist Party leaders and having aided in raising funds for various front groups. The policy of the magazine is Anti-Fascist and pro-Russian according to the file. The October, 1946, issue of the publication suggested that there was an effort under way to make the FBI into a political police organization. The Bureau's investigation of the magazine is in a closed status.

RECOMMENDATION: That the request be denied.

Respectfully,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267ms/eam/ry

M. A. Jones

RECORDED

EX-55

100-165
FBI
78 MAY 8 1947

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL = 12

50 MAY 1947

154

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-329561-4

April 15, 1948

SAC, New York

COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.
VETERANS MATTERS
Bureau File 100-3-73

Chappaqua, N.Y.,

b7C

advised this office that GLEASON, who is the subject of a pending case in this office, had been either nominated or elected President of the Veterans of Foreign War, Pleasantville, New York, Chapter. She pointed out that GLEASON had been refused membership in the American Legion in Chappaqua because of his alleged Communist background. b7D

She said that local and White Plains papers are checking his election in the Veterans of Foreign War, and she understood that 90% of the members of that Chapter wanted to see him elected.

The Reporters Dispatch, a newspaper published in White Plains, New York, in its issue of April 9, 1948, carried a story captioned, "UP-COUNTY VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR QUESTION ON ELECTING GLEASON LEADER". This article reflected that members of the Northern Westchester Post of the Veterans of Foreign War were questioned the previous evening in connection with an election last month in which LEVERETT S. GLEASON, of Chappaqua, was named Commander. The questioning was done by RAPHAEL J. MACARO, of Tuckahoe, County Commander and State Judge Advocate of the Veterans of Foreign War. A special Post meeting, according to this article, has been set for Wednesday or Thursday, April 14th and 15th, 1948 to investigate the entire situation.

An extra copy of this letter is being forwarded to the Bureau for inclusion in the Bureau file on "LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.; INTERNAL SECURITY-C", Bureau File 100-165971.

The above is being furnished for the Bureau's information.
cc:NY 100-56664 (Leverett S. Gleason)

RJG:MRW
100-79498

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

10/30/83 BY 60267MS/BAW/ky

RECORDED

10 APR 1948

EX-47

281948

100-165971 ✓

December 13, 1948

SAC, New York

RE:

LEVERETT GLEASON, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Your file 100-58664

Dear Sir:

A review of the files at the Bureau in connection with this subject has revealed that a report has not been received concerning the subject since the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 4-5-47 at New York.

b7C

While it is realized that existing instructions do not require that a report be submitted periodically on Security Index card subjects unless the subject is also a top functionary, it is felt that in view of the tense international situation at the present time, a new report should be submitted setting forth the extent of the subject's present activities in connection with the Communist Party and related groups in order that the Bureau will be in possession of current information concerning each one of those subjects who are considered a threat to the internal security.

In submitting the report, the Bureau desires that you incorporate in summary form the information contained in your files not previously reported. Information of substantive nature only should be set forth and repetitious material should be avoided. Where a description of the subject has not been reported, that, too, should be included in the report and also placed on the reverse side of the Security Index card in accordance with the instructions outlined in SAC Letter No. 57, Series 1948, dated April 10, 1948.

In the event the subject's current address is not the same as that which appears on the Security Index card, you should correct the Security Index card and forward Form FD-119 to the Bureau in order that the Security Index card at the Bureau can be corrected.

In order that the Security Index will contain only the names of those individuals who can be considered to be a threat to the internal security of this country, the Bureau desires that you carefully appraise this case and if it appears that the subject, based on his present position and activities or past position and activities, cannot be considered such a threat, then in addition to submitting the report, you should recommend that the Security Index

card be

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

This matter should receive your immediate attention.

DEC 13 1948 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/15/03 BY 60322

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: 2-8-49

FROM : Mr. Nichols

SUBJECT: LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/05 BY 60260NLS/PAW/PS

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. E. A. Tamm | |
| Mr. Clegg | |
| Mr. Glavin | |
| Mr. Ladd | |
| Mr. Nichols | |
| Mr. Rosen | |
| Mr. Tracy | |
| Mr. Egan | |
| Mr. Gurnea | |
| Mr. Harbo | |
| Mr. Mohr | |
| Mr. Pennington | |
| Mr. Quinn Tamm | |
| Tele. Room | |
| Mr. Nease | |
| Miss Holmes | |
| Miss Gandy | |

[redacted] for the above publications, called at the Bureau this morning for the purpose of obtaining information as a basis for a feature article on scientific methods of crime detection. He asked to go on a tour of the Bureau and was conducted by Supervisor [redacted]

[redacted] On his return he was informed that in view of the many commitments at the present time, it would not be possible to develop any material for him along the lines that he wished. This action is taken in view of the character of Gleason and the type of publications he has handled in the past of which "Readers Scope" magazine is typical. This magazine which recently was discontinued consistently carried a number of articles which followed the Communist Party line. We also, have an Internal Security file C on Gleason which shows his deep involvement in the Communist movement.

[redacted] during his visit stated that the Gleason Publications are putting out a new magazine in June or July which will be called "Tops." This magazine is planned as a picture publication and will undoubtedly follow the same trend which has been typical of Gleason publications heretofore. When [redacted] left the office he stated that he would forward a copy of the first issue of the magazine "Tops" to our attention as soon as it was released and he hoped that at some future time arrangements could be made for an article. He was given no commitment or encouragement along this line.

[redacted] presented a letter from [redacted] which is attached hereto. It is not believed that any acknowledgment to this communication is necessary.

we will have nothing to do with this crowd.

Mr. Jones

Attachment

HFC:mdd

RECORDED - 62

INDEXED - 62

11 FEB 15 1949

EX-118

CRIME REC.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Lev Gleason Publications, Inc.

114 EAST 32nd STREET, NEW YORK 16, N. Y. • Murray Hill 3-0722

February 3, 1949

Public Relations Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This will introduce to you [redacted] who is on assignment to do a feature article for our magazine "TOPS." We are mainly concerned with the latest scientific innovations of your crime detection program. Any information and photographs that you have available on this subject and can make accessible to him will be greatly appreciated by us.

b7C

Thank you for your cooperation,

Sincerely,

[redacted]

b7C

JG:am

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED - 62 100-165771-24

F B I
11 FEB 15 1949

EX-118

CRIME RECORDS

100-165771-24

JFS:MCF

BUREAU FILE 100-165971
NY FILE 100-50864
LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DIVISION: I
SECTION: 7

Insp. Gurnea: Subject is a key figure in the New York Office, which office is office of origin in this case. Last report submitted by the New York Office was dated May 8, 1947.

There appears in the file a letter from the Bureau, dated December 13, 1948, requesting a current report and a recommendation as to whether or not the subject should be continued on the security index.

The file fails to reflect that a current report has been or is in the process of being prepared.

Bureau instructions that reports be submitted every six months in key figure cases have obviously not been complied with in this case. Immediate arrangements should be made so that a current report shall be submitted to the Bureau without further delay.

This case has been assigned to Special Agent [redacted] since January 18, 1949 and is supervised by Supervisor [redacted]

b7C

*7-20-49
for
11/9/50
11/17/51*

Inspection Report
New York Office
Insp. Gurnea
October 17, 1949

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

10/20/03

602167NCS/PAW/ply

NOT RECORDED
NOT RECORDED

602505-1949

[redacted] SA: Instant matter last reported 8/6/47 was assigned to the writer 1/18/48. A report has ~~not~~ been submitted to date due to the pressures of more expedite work. A report in instant matter will be submitted within the next 30 to 60 days. b7C

[redacted] Supervisor: SA [redacted] has a large group of key figures and organizational cases assigned to him on which the Bureau has instructed that current reports be prepared. Although this as well as several other cases assigned to him are delinquent, it is felt that given sufficient time he will be able to bring these cases up to date. I cannot reassign this case at this time in order to prepare a report immediately due to the shortage of personnel as the other agents on the section are also handling cases on which the Bureau has instructed that reports be prepared. It is hoped that a report can be gotten out within the next 30 to 60 days. b7C

ASAC A. H. Belmont: Due to the volume of work on Communist matters in this office, we have not been able to limit the case load per agent to that which would enable agents to keep the cases current. We realize the importance of keeping these cases current. We will continue our efforts to do so.

SAC Edward Scheidt: We have assigned as many agents as we possibly can to Communist work, commensurate with our responsibilities in other investigative fields. The Bureau has been advised of our concern over the delinquency in Communist cases and I have requested additional personnel to permit us to handle the work in accordance with Bureau instructions.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 11-

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SI card UTD
12-28-49
hml

Q-1

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

RACE _____ SEX: _____ NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____

DATE OF BIRTH 2-25-98 PLACE OF BIRTH G.I.R.-7

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

RECORDED - 11

100-165971-25

EX-11

JAN 24 1950

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

WTM:JTD
100-56664

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

10/20/03

BY 60267NCS/BAW/82

and [signature]

FD-72
(1-10-49)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO.

100-56664 FJS

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 1/30/50 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/5;24;4/28;7/24;8/12;9/5/47; 4/1/48;5/18; 8/16;9/23;12/19/ 49;1/5/50 | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div> b7C |
| TITLE LEVERETT STONE GLEASON was., Lev Gleason, Alexander Lev | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY -C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject employed as publisher Lev Gleason Publications, Inc. NYC and as publisher of "Newcastle News" Chappaqua, NY. Resides Chappaqua, NY. Subject is member Board of Directors, J. A. F. R. C. Received suspended sentence and \$500.00 fine on contempt charge USDC, Washington, DC 7/16/47. Subject resigned position with J. A. F. R. C June, 1947. Subject denies GERHARDT FISLER ever employed by "Reader's Scope" a magazine published by subject. Subject's C.P. front activities set out. Subject's publication advocates civil liberties for all, including Communists; collaboration with Russia and opposed American support of FRANCO Spain, Nationalist China, or intervention in Turkey, Greece, Palestine or India. Subject active in affairs of American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chappaqua, NY.

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

- P* -

REFERENCES:

Bureau file 100-165971

Report of SA at New York, 5/5/47

b7C

DETAILS:

RESIDENCES

On December 19, 1949 it was ascertained by Special Agent that the subject currently resides on Park b7C Drive, Chappaqua, New York.

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Scheidt</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES DESTROYED 2-3-59 R109 | | 100-165971-26 | INDEXED - 36 |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑥ Bureau 1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div> DIO, 3 b7C 1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div> G.S.C., 1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div> G-2, 1st Army 1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div> 2nd OSI District 1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div> USAF 3 New York | | RECORDED - 36 EX-110 FEB 1 1950 13 | |

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52 FEB 13 1950

DECLASSIFIED BY *6010NCS/RAW/ply*
ON *10/20/03*

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EMPLOYMENT

Special Agent [redacted] through appropriate pretext, on December 19, 1949 ascertained that the subject continues to be employed in the capacity of publisher of the "Newcastle News" with offices at Bedford Road, Chappaqua, New York. b7C

On January 5, 1950 through an appropriate pretext telephone call to the offices of the Lev Gleason Publications, Inc., 114 East 32 Street, New York City, it was ascertained that the subject continues to be employed with this organization in the capacity of publisher. The New York City classified telephone directory for November, 1949 lists the Lev Gleason Publications, Inc. as publishers of "Boy Comics", "Crime Does Not Pay Comics", "Crime and Punishment Comics", "Daredevil Comics", "Desperado Comics", "Horse Feathers" and "Reader's Scope."

COMMUNIST AFFILIATIONS

Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

[redacted] of known reliability, on July 3, 1947 furnished a booklet pertaining to the "Convention of Solidarity" held in Mexico City, August 20 through August 25, 1943 which reflected the names of Mr. and Mrs. LEVETETT S. GLEASON as American delegates to the convention and representatives of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, New York City. b2

Special Agent [redacted] attended the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Madison Square Garden rally on December 16, 1947, the purpose of which was to urge the isolation of FRANCO Spain and the formation of a new Spanish Republic. Among the contributions announced at the rally was one of \$250.00 by the subject. b7C

[redacted] of unknown reliability, who claimed to be closely associated with the subject and familiar with the latter's activities at Chappaqua, New York, advised that in July of 1947 the subject, at that time a prominent member of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, submitted a considerable amount of written material and literature to the Committee in New York City. b2 b7D

The "Reporter Dispatch", a newspaper located at White Plains, New York

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announced on April 1, 1947 that a District Grand Jury citing convening at Washington D. C. on March 31, 1947 had indicted 16 members of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee who had been identified as the governing body of that organization. According to the article, the Grand Jury indictment accused the group of conspiring to prevent the House Committee on Un-American Activities from gaining access to the records of the organization and failing to produce the records before the Committee. Among those indicted as members of the governing body was LEVERETT GLEASON, identified as publisher of the "Newcastle News", Chappaqua, New York.

The "Daily Worker" issue of July 17, 1947 reported that 11 of the leaders of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee were sentenced July 16, 1947 to prison terms of from 3 to 6 months and fined \$500.00 in the United States District Court, Washington, D. C. on a charge of being in contempt of the House Un-American Committee. According to the article, 5 others, including the subject, were given a 3-month suspended sentence and fined in the amount of \$500.00. These latter individuals, according to the article, expressed their willingness to surrender the books of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee to the House Un-American Activities Committee, but stated that it was not within their power to do this. The article states that these latter 5 paid their fines and indicated to the Court that they had no intention of appealing, and further advised the judge that they had resigned as directors of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee in June of 1947.

On February 4, 1948 [redacted] of known reliability b2 advised that according to [redacted] of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the subject had severed all relations with Dr. EDWARD K. ~~BARSKY~~, National Chairman of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and had not spoken to him since the contempt sentences had been received. b7C

It is noted that according to the "Daily Worker" issue of July 17, 1947, Dr. BARSKY was sentenced to a prison term of 6 months and fined in the amount of \$500.00.

The "Newcastle Tribune", a newspaper published at Chappaqua, New York, issue of February 28, 1947 reported that GERHARDT EISLER, who had just been indicted by a District of Columbia Grand Jury for contempt of the House of Representatives in September, 1945, listed "Reader's Scope" of which the subject is publisher, as his employer. The article states that the subject

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was contacted with regard to this claim on the part of EISLER and stated that no articles had ever appeared in "Reader's Scope" under EISLER'S name nor did he ever at any time submit articles which were purchased or accepted. The subject explained that his only connection with EISLER was the fact that the latter was a member of the Executive Board of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee which carried on its rolls the names of 12 refugees who had fought in the Spanish War and who had come to this country after leaving a concentration camp at Vernet, France, enroute to Mexico,

According to the article GLEASON claimed that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee did not bring EISLER to this country but that he came under the auspices of the American Committee to Save Refugees. Later the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee took over 12 of these refugees, one of whom was EISLER.

The "Newcastle News", a newspaper published by the subject at Chappaqua, New York, issue of March 13, 1947 contains a statement by the subject concerning his relations with GERHARDT EISLER and allegations that the "Newcastle News" was a Communist newspaper. This article is quoted in part as follows;

ANSWERS TO A FEW QUESTIONS

"We asked LEVERETT S. GLEASON, our publisher, to write an editorial this week, but found him up to his neck in other publishing activities. Yet we felt so many readers wanted his views on several questions that we asked for an interview--and here it is verbatim.

"EDITOR: I imagine you have read the story in another newspaper about developments in your libel suit against the World-Telegram. Do you want to comment?"

"MR. GLEASON: As a matter of fact, I haven't seen the story but I would not comment in any way about a law suit to which I am a party until after the case is settled. Any lawyer would agree to the wisdom of this. I will say my attorneys and I fully expect to win the case and that some people are in for several big surprises,

"EDITOR: What about the story that GERHARD EISLER was employed by Reader's Scope Magazine?"

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- "MR. GLEASON: He was never employed by Reader's Scope or by me. He never wrote anything for Reader's Scope. Several years ago we bought some research material from him for a total cost, if I remember, of \$150. It concerned primarily the possibility of an early collapse of Germany from within. It so happens the material was not used, as I had a contrary opinion. Our relation to EISLER is analogous to a situation where you might buy a sack of potatoes from a grocer who was later arrested on some charge or other.
- "EDITOR: What about the case in which you and 16 others have been cited for contempt of Congress?
- "MR. GLEASON: After nearly a year's delay, I understand that the case will soon come before the Grand Jury, and if there are indictments, the case will be tried. I cannot discuss that case either until after the court proceedings.
- "EDITOR: What do you say to those who say the New Castle News is a Communist paper?
- "MR. GLEASON: I think our more than 1,000 regular readers in the town would be very surprised to hear it. However, that's the style of the day. If you don't like anything or anybody, call it or him Communist.
- "EDITOR: Do you think there is any sort of pattern connecting the proposed anti-labor legislation, the red hunts, the contempt cases, the rising anti-semitism, the drive against LLLLENTHAL and antics of people like BILBO, RANKIN, McKELLER, and LOOMIS of the Columbians.
- "MR. GLEASON: Indeed yes. It is all one pattern. We are in a period of a reactionary swing in the country, a very dangerous swing which holds many of the elements of potential fascism. There is a concerted drive against civil liberties, against labor's rights and the democratic aspirations of the plain people. The purpose of the anti-labor legislation is to smash unions and cut wages. It is a drive against the majority of the American people, for the majority work for a living and earn wages. I am against cutting wages.

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"EDITOR: But a drive by big business to cut wages need not be an indication of fascism--we've had that before.

"MR. GLEASON: True--but this is a new period and the monopolists have learned new methods--the methods of fascism. If our way of life is to be preserved, it must be defended--the Constitution and the Bill of Rights must be upheld in full. There must be no denial of civil liberties to anyone--and that goes for Communists and Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses and Jews and Protestants, for white and black, for workers and employers--for all. Any drive against the rights of one is a threat to the rights of all. We cannot tolerate any second class citizenship for those with whom we disagree.

"EDITOR: Do you think we can preserve our democratic way of life?

"MR. GLEASON: It is being put to a severe test. I think it can if we uphold our Constitution and Bill of Rights 100% without yielding one iota to anybody, if we practise democracy at home and abroad, if we insure prosperity by maintaining our high standards of wages and living, and if we apply to our national life, in approaching political, economic and business problems a little more of the ethics and morals pointed out so clearly in the teachings of our great religious faiths.

"EDITOR: What is your background, MR. GLEASON, just briefly?

"MR. GLEASON: Well, I was born in Winchendon, Mass., Feb. 25, 1898.

"EDITOR: Were your parents born here too?

"MR. GLEASON: I don't think that makes much difference. I'm not much of a one for judging a person by where his parents were born. But to answer your question--yes, and if it's of any interest, THOMAS GLEASON, the first settler of our family on the paternal side came to Watertown, Mass., in 1652--while on my mother's side, JOSHUA WHITNEY was born in Watertown in 1635. Getting back to me, I was raised in Newton, Mass., went to Phillips Andover, one year at Harvard, class of 1920, when I left to enlist in the Army in World War I, spent two years overseas. I have been in the publishing business most of the time for the past 25 years.

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I served in the Army Air Force Weather Service in World War II and hold an honorable discharge from both hitches in the service. I moved to Chappaqua in 1941.

"EDITOR: Do you belong to any veterans' organizations?

"MR. GLEASON: Yes, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Veterans Committee, and the Yankee Division Veterans Association.

"EDITOR: Have you ever been to Russia?

"MR. GLEASON: No, I have never been to the Soviet Union--but I would certainly like to visit that country and probably will some day.

"EDITOR: Why did you start the New Castle News?

"MR. GLEASON: Because I am very interested in the community where I live and I felt a newspaper was needed which would inform our residents honestly and which could serve and build the community. Being a publisher I thought I could best serve by publishing a good local paper.

"EDITOR: The newspaper is independent in politics. What are your personal politics?

"MR. GLEASON: I am an entolled voter in the American Labor Party, of which I am very proud.

"EDITOR: Why are you so careful that the newspaper doesn't attack the character of people with whom you disagree?

"MR. GLEASON: I simply don't believe in smear journalism. I believe in fair competition. That's free enterprise, isn't it? We will go to any lengths to fight for issues we believe in and to attack wrongs to the community and its people. A newspaper gets to know more about people in a town than anyone, knows pretty nearly everything that is going on. But we don't go in for character assassination, nor even personal attack, unless it is required in the interest of the community.

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"EDITOR: Thank you Mr. GLEASON--anything in conclusion?

"MR. GLEASON: Just that we'll continue to fight for the things we believe in--and for the people of this township--the stuffed shirts, the weasel worders, the phoneys and the old gossips to the contrary notwithstanding."

Civil Rights Congress

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that he was in attendance at a dinner sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress held October 17, 1946 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City. This dinner was announced as being held for the express purpose of inaugurating an "Oust BILBO Campaign." [redacted] Legal Staff, Chairman, Civil Rights Congress, acted as toastmaster and after delivering an address requesting contributions, approximately \$9,000.00 was collected. According to the informant, the subject, identified as publisher of "Reader's Scope", was credited with a contribution of \$500.00. The informant further advised that the following Communist Party functionaries were present at this meeting:

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1. MURIEL DRAPER

Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee
National Committee, Communist Party
International Workers Order

2. MILTON WOLFF

Abraham Lincoln Brigade
Trade Union Director, Communist Party
Jefferson School of Social Science

b7C

It is to be noted that the above organizations have been listed by the Attorney General as Communist front organizations.

Congress of American Women

[redacted] of unknown reliability, who claimed to be closely associated with the affairs of the Congress of American Women, advised that the subject spoke at a meeting of this organization on March 28, 1947 at the organization's Manhattan Chapter in New York City. According to the informant, the subject on this occasion commented with regard to a speech by President TRUMAN that, "When TRUMAN spoke he shot the works and he shot the American people." The subject praised the Congress of American Women and instituted a collection from which approximately \$600.00 was realized.

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It is to be noted that the Congress of American Women is an organization that has been designated as a Communist front organization by the Attorney General and coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

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~~Voice of Freedom Committee~~

The "New York Post" issue of March 3, 1947 reported an article by PAUL DENNIS which stated that the ~~"Save of Voice of Freedom Committee"~~ had been formed under the direction of Dr. HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD and that the Committee was to hold a dinner on March 5, 1947 at the Park Central Hotel, New York City where it was hoped enough money could be raised to sponsor "liberal commentators on the air."

According to [redacted] of known reliability, the subject was listed as one of the chairmen of this dinner. b2

In the New York newspaper "PM" issue of March 2, 1947 it was reported that DOROTHY PARKER had announced the formation of a "Save the Voice of Freedom Committee" because of the dismissal of a large number of "liberal commentators" which dismissals were due to the "pressure of reactionary influences in radio." According to the article, PARKER was quoted as stating that the Save the Voice of Freedom Committee would seek to "maintain radio as a democratic instrument of the people."

publication
The April issue of the ~~"Voice of Freedom"~~, official organ of the Voice of Freedom Committee, reported that this latter organization came into existence as a result of the "Air the Voice of Freedom Dinner" held March 5, 1947.

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that the Voice of Freedom Committee was at its inception a Communist front organization under the control and the direction of [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom were known to the informant to be Communist Party members. b2 b7D b7C

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Loyalty Order

The following is an editorial appearing in the "Newcastle News" issue of March 27, 1947 relative to inquiries conducted by Government agencies regarding the loyalty of Government employees, which is quoted as follows:

~~DISLOYAL~~ WITCH HUNTERS *article*

"There can be no question whatever but that our Government and all its branches should insist upon absolute and unswerving loyalty on the part of each and every employee.

"The issue, however, has become so obscured that it might be well to ask who is to determine and define loyalty. There are no two ways about loyalty; one is either loyal or disloyal. A loyal person is one who will uphold the Government of the United States against its enemies, foreign and domestic, and who will defend the Constitution of the United States, with his life if need be. ♦

"At the present time, however, there has been launched in the United States a far-reaching witch hunt. Some of the deep and hidden elements behind this witch hunt are themselves the disloyal ones for it is they who are developing a pattern of potential fascism in the United States. The pattern of fascism--the original design was created by MUSSOLINI in Italy--was elaborated and improved by HITLER in Nazi Germany, and it is being copied by some of our 'best stylists' in America.

"The introduction of some of the sweeping anti-labor legislation is part and parcel of that pattern--for some of this legislation is intended not to bring labor peace but to smash labor unions. Other bills are being readied to outlaw minority political parties, to withhold mailing privileges from publications whose ideas may not be popular. And now, President TRUMAN, under pressure, has issued a decree concerning so-called 'disloyal jobholders.' The first question here involves Communists.

"In all this hysteria of the moment, we feel that it should be determined once and for all by the courts whether the Communist Party in America owes allegiance to a foreign power, whether it seeks to overthrow the Government of the United States. It is a strange contradiction that membership in a political party can be on the one hand proof, per se, of disloyalty, while on the other hand, this same party is in many States a legal party electing office-holders. Two city councilmen in New York City are, and were elected, as Communists. Why not let us get the whole thing straightened out?

"The attack upon the Communists, however, already has widened to include anyone who, it can be claimed, has sympathies with the ideas of a

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so-called 'Communist front organization', and not alone the loyalty of these individuals is to be questioned--but their intentions. This sounds very much to us like the Japanese decree against 'dangerous thoughts.'

"Perhaps those who are going to do the investigation, and in whose hands will rest the fate of Government job-holders, have now devised a machine similar to the lie detector which will probe the subconscious and come up with proof of one's intentions.

"It is not the purpose of all those who are pushing this type of legislation to drive America along the road to fascism--but there are those who have as their purpose the creation of a wave of hysteria and fear among our people. A people afraid are a weak people and a weak people can easily be led.

"We stand for absolute and complete patriotic loyalty on the part of every Government job-holder. There can be no question about this whatever. But at the same time, in time of crises, more than any other, it is the patriotic duty of all to uphold our civil liberties, our Bill of Rights, and the Constitution itself.

"A revival of the old-fashioned witch hunt can only injure the American people.

"The pattern of fascism is being put together--attacks on trade unions, attacks on minority political parties, judging a man's loyalty by his intended beliefs. This same pattern has been evident in every country where fascism has come to power. Let us beware of those who, under the mask of fighting Communism, are, in reality, trying to make this a fascist America. Just plain good old-fashioned democratic U. S. A. is good enough for us--let's keep it that way."

Foreign Policy

The following is an editorial appearing in the "Newcastle News" issue of March 20, 1947 reflecting the newspaper's attitude toward the prevailing foreign policy of the United States, which is quoted as follows:

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"We think there need be no such choice. Our present dilemma has been brought about by the stumbling, inept policy of former Secretary BYRNES, plus the deliberate machinations of powerful interests who want war--the sooner the better. The present new policy is the direct outcome of CHURCHILL'S Fulton, Missouri speech--which was a direct call for war against Russia to halt the spread of Communist ideas.

"War will not halt the spread of any ideas, Communist or otherwise. Ideas in peoples' minds are not turned on and off at Mr. CHURCHILL'S whim. Ideas grow from conditions which obtain.

"If our form of democracy is to prevail in this world, it must be by good example--not by the sword. President ROOSEVELT knew this and hewed out a policy of collaboration with the Soviets. We are in this terrible crisis today because we have abandoned ROOSEVELT'S foreign policy--and for no other reason!

"NO OTHER REASON!

"Are we going to police the whole world, attempt to shove our ideas down the throats of smaller peoples everywhere by force of arms? Already behind closed doors in Washington they are talking of expenditures of ten billion dollars, of setting the draft in motion again, of all-out war.

"After Greece and Turkey, will we intervene in Palestine and India and China? There's lots of talk about it.

"Former Ambassador JOE KENNEDY has pointed out that if a socialist economy doesn't work in Europe, the Europeans will find it out. Senator TAFT has been quick to challenge this critical departure in American policy. Voices are being raised on every side. It must be a thunder of voices from the whole of America, a great tumult shouting 'No war with Russia or anybody else'.

"Let the people of this township join with the aroused millions throughout the nation in protesting this recklessness with the peoples' lives and the fate of our beloved country.

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"Relief for suffering people. YES! No political loans, no military missions, no troops, NO WAR. Let's prove democracy works by showing the world it works. Let's stick to the great ideals on which our country was founded and which have carried us down the centuries. Our support of the Greek monarchy, of the Turkish dictatorship, the fascist regime of FRANCO or the murderous clique around Chiang Kai-Shek, is not in the American tradition, it is NOT the American way. It is not even honest.

"We can make an enduring peace, we can lead the people of the world to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness by returning to the ROOSEVELT policy. We don't want war--the Russians don't want war--there must be no war--now or later.

"But the crisis is upon us. The need for the people to express themselves is urgent.

"We are faced with a matter of life and death. Mistake that not.

"Every reader of this paper--every resident of this town--every church congregation--and every school classroom--should write or wire Congressman GAMBLE, Senators WAGNER and IVES, and President TRUMAN now--today--protesting the drive to war!"

Veterans Affairs

The "Newcastle News" dated April 17, 1947 announced the election of officers for the northern Westchester Post 2721 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at a meeting on Thursday, April 10, 1947. This article reflects that the subject was elected to the position of Trustee of the above mentioned Post.

[redacted] of unknown reliability, advised on April 1, 1948 that the subject had been refused membership in the American Legion at Chappaqua because of his reputed Communist Party background. The informant commented that newspapers in the vicinity of Chappaqua and White Plains, New York were also checking into the subject's election as an officer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars because of the subject's having been cited in Washington on contempt charges by the un-American Affairs Committee regarding his connections with the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

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The "Reporter Dispatch" issue of April 9, 1948 reported that members of the northern Westchester Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars were questioned on April 8, 1948 concerning the election of the subject as Commander of that Post in March of 1948. According to the article GLEASON was hospitalized at the time of the hearing and, therefore, was not present. Following this meeting, according to the article, RAPHAEL J. MACARO, County Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, announced that he was continuing an investigation into the whole situation but did not amplify this comment.

- PENDING -

NY 100-56664

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will continue to follow and report the activities of subject, indicating Communist Party affiliations or participation in Communist Party activities.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The following Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA [redacted] at New York, dated January 30, 1950 were designated b7C temporary Confidential Informant symbols to better protect their identity o. at the specific request of the individual:

| | | |
|-----|------------|---|
| b2 | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b7C | [redacted] | who furnished information to SA [redacted] and Special Employee [redacted] |
| b2 | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b2 | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b7D | [redacted] | [redacted] Scarsdale, New York. |
| b7C | [redacted] | [redacted] Report of SA [redacted] New York, entitled "CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS - INTERNAL SECURITY -C" dated March 1, 1947. |
| b2 | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b7D | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b7C | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b2 | [redacted] | Confidential mailbox of the New York office. |
| b2 | [redacted] | [redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted] |
| b7D | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| b7C | [redacted] | [redacted] Chappaqua, New York, who furnished information to SA [redacted] |

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 27, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RE: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON; (LOUIS BUDENZ 400)
INTERNAL SECURITY * C

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party.

BUDENZ advised SA [redacted] on June 20, 1950, b7C of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview.

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of these questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows:

1. Identify individual
 - a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
 - b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
 - c. Any aliases
2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
 - a. If seen at a closed meeting get date, place and persons present at meeting
 - b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
 - c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.
3. Documents
 - a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.
 1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", and any front publications or other publications,

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DATE 10/30/03 BY 60215NLS/BAW/ef

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

cc: 62-8988

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Letter to Director
NY 100-56664

4 Fronts

Was individual active in front organizations.

- a. Which organizations
- b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;

What work;

Who knew it;

Did individual ever do any special work for party.

6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.
7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.
8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?
9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?
10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?
11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?
12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?
13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?
14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.

Letter to Director

NY 100-56664

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect.

The original of each memo has been reviewed by Mr. BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, NY file 62-8988.

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol.

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C".

LEVERETT GLEASON

Editor and publisher of comic magazines. Formerly editor of "Readers Scope" and now an editor of a Westchester County newspaper.

I have met him on several occasions as a Communist, notably, twice at the home of FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD on 12th Street. Mr. GLEASON was a very active Communist in 1944 and 1945, to my knowledge, advising the Daily Worker on its tabloid appearance and also participating in other advice to the Party on publication matters.

While I received official information of this at the Daily Worker through members of the Politburo, specifically my chief source of information, [redacted] at the same time I met GLEASON and discussed these matters with him personally. Also, he advised me, as I knew from other sources, that he employed members of the Daily Worker staff as writers on the Readers Scope. One of these was [redacted] who wrote under the name of [redacted] b7C

In the Politburo discussions, and confirmed by Mr. GLEASON to me, Readers Scope was also established in order to fight the Readers Digest and to be a Communist Party means of invading that field.

GLEASON was a member of the Executive Committee of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and also has been a member of a number of other fronts.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267NLS/BAW/pej

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9 11 1974

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

22877 DATE: AUG 25 1950

FROM: SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-165971)

Review of the subject's file indicates that he has been carried as a key figure in the New York Office because of his importance in the Communist movement. This activity appears to have been his associations with the Joint Anti Fascist Refugee Committee, "Readers Scope", and individuals who are known Communists or are believed to be pro-Communists. The file review also reflects that he is no longer associated with the two above mentioned organizations although he is still reported to maintain pro-Communist sympathies. There is nothing to indicate that he is important in the Communist movement at the present time.

In view of the above, this individual no longer will be carried as a key figure in the New York Office.

A closing report on this subject is being submitted at this time and a security index card will be continued on him.

NY 100-96900

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/30/03 BY 60271NS/BAM/PL

EX-16

RECORDED - 90

INDEXED - 90

EX-16

100-165971-28
28 1950

32 SEP 11 1950

MBH:NRK
100-96664

A. E. Leonard

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-56664 NHK/PC

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 8/25/50 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/11,15,16/50 | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> b7C |
| TITLE LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was. | | | CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continues to reside at Chappaqua, N.Y., where he is publisher of the "Newcastle News". He is presently also publisher of LEV GLEASON Publications, NYC. Confidential Informant has advised that subject was a Communist during 1944 and 1945, at which time he advised the "Daily Worker" on its tabloid appearance and furnished advice concerning other Communist publications. While associated with "Readers Scope" he employed "Daily Worker" writers to write for that magazine.

RECEIVED BY 60247NLS/ENK/10/10/50

- C -

SECURITY INFORMATION ~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

DETAILS:

RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS ADDRESS

The current Manhattan telephone directory has the listing for the LEV GLEASON Publications, 114 East 32nd Street, telephone number MU 7-3022.

b2

of known reliability, ascertained on August 11, 1950, that the subject continues his associations with the LEV GLEASON Publications, 114 East 32nd Street, New York, New York.

The current Westchester County telephone directory lists the residence of LEVERETT STONE GLEASON as Park Drive, Chappaqua,

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|---------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward J. Schmitt</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | |
| COPIES DESTROYED <i>2-2-50 R109</i> | COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-165971) 3 - New York | 100-165971-1 | RECORDED - 90 |
| | | INDEXED - 90 | |

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NY 100-56664

New York.

The "Newcastle Tribune" of June 16, 1950, describes GLEASON as publisher of "Newcastle News" (Chappaqua, New York).

COMMUNIST PARTY CONNECTIONS

On June 20, 1950, Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, described GLEASON as editor and publisher of comic magazines, a former editor of "Readers Scope" and now the editor of the Westchester County newspaper.

Confidential Informant T-2 said that he met GLEASON on several occasions as a Communist. This informant stated that GLEASON was a very active Communist during 1944 and 1945, at which time he, GLEASON, advised the "Daily Worker" on its tabloid appearance and also furnished advice to the Communist Party on other publication matters.

The "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

T-2 advised that GLEASON employed members of the "Daily Worker" staff as writers on "Readers Scope", one of these being [redacted] who writes under the name of [redacted] b7C

[redacted] stated also that it was made known to him by GLEASON and by other sources that "Readers Scope" was established in order to fight the "Reader's Digest" and to be the Communist Party means of invading that field. T-2 also advised that GLEASON was a member of several Communist Party fronts during 1944 and 1945. b2

MISCELLANEOUS

The "Newcastle Tribune", Chappaqua, New York, on June 16, 1950, carried an article entitled "JAFRC Directors Begin Jail Terms In Contempt Case", (Joint Anti Fascist Refugee Committee). This article went on to say that Dr. EDWARD R. BARSKY, Chairman, and ten other members of JAFRC began jail sentences for contempt of Congress for refusing to turn over records and data regarding the JAFRC to the House Committee on Un-American Activities. The article stated further that LEVERETT S. GLEASON of Park Drive (Chappaqua), publisher of the "Newcastle News", a former director of the JAFRC, had originally been convicted with the other members of the JAFRC, but did not appeal his case and paid a fine of \$500, at which time he was also given a three months suspended sentence when he resigned from that organization. Commenting further on Mr. GLEASON, the article stated, "Mr. GLEASON was enrolled to vote the Communist ticket in 1933 and 1935, according to the registry of voters of the Board of Elections of New York City, pages 52 and 53.

NY 100-56664

"In 1933, one LEVERETT ~~S.~~ GLEASON and his former wife, MARIE, registered to vote for the Communist Party, stating, according to the record that they were both thirty-four years old..." The article states also, "In 1939 Mr. GLEASON signed petition nominating ISRAEL AMSTER to run for City Councilman on the Communist ticket.

"In 1941, Mr. GLEASON bought a house on Park Drive, in Chappaqua, and moved there, where he is now living. New Castle voters' files, beginning in 1946, do not show him registered to vote in that year.

"In 1947, his name appears alone, registered in the American Labor Party..."

"Mr. GLEASON'S name appears on the New Castle voters' register in 1948, still a member of the American Labor Party, but in 1949 and 1950, he registered with his present wife, MARGARET C. GLEASON, as a Democrat."

A Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report of March 29, 1949, Page 78, cited the American Labor Party as follows:

"For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York City. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control".

C L O S E D

NY 100-56664

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

b7C

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA [redacted]
[redacted] dated August 25, 1950, at New York, New York, are as follows:

b2

[redacted]

Pretext telephone call
to the LEV GLEASON Publications
by SA [redacted] on August 11, 1950.

b7C

b2

[redacted]

[redacted] who furnished
information to SA [redacted]

b7C

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [redacted] 1/30/50, New York. b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 18, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C.
(Bufile 100-165971)

U.I.D.
7-2 to New

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267 NLS/paw/pj

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

RACE _____ SEX _____ NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 73 Park Drive, Chappaqua, N.Y.

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

TPL:hd
100-56664

RECORDED - 4
EX - 119

100-165971-29
JUN 20 1951
18
re: [signature]

589
60 JUL 5 1951

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 12, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bufile 100-165971

621
7-30-51 eth

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267 NLS/BAW/plg

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

RACE _____ SEX _____ NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ X (VET) _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List) _____

TPL:jf
100-56664

RECORDED - 49
EX-130

100-165971-30
JUL 16 1951
11

65 JUL 31 1951

WJ
2 E. [signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-165971)

DATE: January 23, 1952

FROM: SAC, New York (100-56664)

Card U.T.D.

2.7.52 eet

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, wa.
SECURITY MATTER - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
10/20/03 BY 100267115/BAW/BJ

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Lev Printing Company

Bedford Road, Marble Avenue, Pleasantville, N.Y.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

WJW:MAT

RECORDED - 126 100-165971-31

F-14
59 FEB 11 1952

E-XB

A.E. Leonard

~~SECRET~~

cc - Internal Security

A. H. Belmont

August 13, 1953

W. A. Branigan

10/20/03

CLASSIFIED BY 60267NLS/BAW/plj/AAG
EXPIRY ON 10/20/28

WALTER BERNSTEIN, was
ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS:

[redacted] b1
[redacted] In 1946 subject was a writer for "Salute," a publication of Leverett Stone Gleason. Gleason was reported to have been a CP member and pro-Communist; he was a director of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (JAFRC), and was convicted of contempt of Congress. He resigned and recanted. As a result, he received a three months suspended sentence and \$500 fine instead of a jail sentence. He was reported to have thereafter severed relations with Dr. Edward K. Barsky, National Chairman of the JAFRC. During 1944-1945, he was consulted by the CP for advice on the operation of its publications. He is self-employed at the present time, publishing a weekly newspaper at Chappaqua, New York, and comic and pulp magazines in NYC. He is reported to be anti-Communist and approachable at the present time. Gleason is presently on the security index. Letter prepared for New York Office authorizing interview with Gleason. (S)

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached letter authorizing interview with Gleason be approved in the Espionage Section and then referred to the Internal Security Section for the approval of that Section in view of the fact that Gleason is a current security index subject and of interest to that Section.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

INDEXED-19 100-165971-30

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

62 AUG 26 1953

NOT RECORDED
AUG 19 1953

Attachment
100-353390

cc - 100-165971 (Leverett Stone Gleason)
WBW:blb

~~SECRET~~

ORIGINAL FILED IN

~~SECRET~~

DETAILS:

b1

[REDACTED] (S)
During World War II Bernstein was a correspondent for the Army paper "Yank" in Europe and the Middle East. Interviews have been conducted with associates of Bernstein who know him [REDACTED]

(S) b1

Bernstein was employed as a writer for "Salute." "Salute" was a magazine promoted and published beginning in February, 1946, by Leverett S. Gleason. "Salute" was reported to follow the Communist Party line and was an attempt to infiltrate veterans' organizations. Gleason is reported to have employed writers who were formerly employed by "Yank" and to have simulated the style and format of "Yank."

The New York Office has requested authority to interview Gleason to determine the activities of Bernstein during that period.

Leverett Stone Gleason was born 2-25-98, at Winchendon, Massachusetts. He attended Harvard University for one year from 1916 to 1917. He served in the United States Army from 1917 to 1919 and again from 7-2-42, to 8-21-43. His present wife is Margaret C. Gleason. Gleason is the publisher of "Newcastle News" and is self-employed as "Lev Gleason Publications," New York City, publishers of comic and pulp magazines. In 1943 the magazine known as "Readers Scope" was established and he became the Editorial Director of that magazine until it was discontinued. This publication was listed by the HCUA as a Communist initiated and controlled publication. Louis Budenz described this as a magazine fostered to combat the capitalistic influence of "Readers Digest." An article in the "Newcastle Tribune" of 6-11-50, stated that Gleason enrolled to vote the Communist ticket in 1933 and 1935 according to the Board of Election records. In 1939 Gleason signed a Communist Party nominating petition on the behalf of Israel Amter, a Communist Party candidate. Louis Budenz met Gleason as a Communist on several occasions and stated that Gleason was very active during 1944 and 1945 during which period he advised the "Daily Worker" on its tabloid appearance and furnished advice to the Communist Party on other publications. He also advised that Gleason employed members of the "Daily Worker" staff on the "Readers Scope." Gleason brought suit against the New York

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

"World Telegram" on the grounds of libel. In its defense, it was claimed that around 1939 Gleason was a member of the Communist Party under the name Alexander Lev. The New York Office files disclose that Alexander Lev was the business manager for "Soviet Russia Today," 114 East 32nd Street, New York City during the late 1930's. This is the same address where Gleason has his business today.

The "Newcastle Tribune" of 6-13-50, carried an item to the effect that Leverett Gleason was a director of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and was convicted of contempt of Congress. He resigned and reinstated. As a result, he received a three months suspended sentence and a \$500 fine instead of a jail sentence. [redacted] advised on 2-4-48, that [redacted] of the JAFRC, stated that Gleason had severed all relations with Dr. Edward K. Barsky, National Chairman of the JAFRC, and had not spoken since the contempt sentence. [redacted] on 10-17-46, advised that Leverett Gleason was credited with contributing \$500 to the Civil Rights Congress. The JAFRC and CRC are listed as Communist organizations by the Attorney General under Executive Order 9835. On 8-25-50, the New York Office advised that Gleason was no longer active in the JAFRC and "Readers Scope" and there was nothing to indicate that he was important in the Communist movement at that time. He was removed from the key figure list, but has been retained on the security index up to this time.

[redacted] on 4-8-53, advised that Gleason was now definitely anti-Communist and could be approached. Louis Budenz was not aware of Gleason's "conversion."

The New York Office is being authorized by the attached letter to interview Leverett Gleason. If cooperative, Gleason can furnish information about Bernstein's activity around the pertinent period. If he is completely cooperative, Gleason can furnish information about his own Communist Party and front activities. [redacted] can adequately be protected during the interview as our interest in Bernstein can stem from his mention in "Red Channels" or other public records and our real interest does not have to be disclosed. Gleason's cooperativeness should be readily apparent early in the interview and if he is not cooperative, the interview can be terminated.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

cc - Internal Security
Section

SAC, New York (65-15652)

August 13, 1953

Director, FBI (100-353390)

WALTER BERNSTEIN, was
ESPIONAGE - R

Reurlet 7-16-53, requesting authority to interview
Everett Stone Gleason.

You are herewith authorized to interview Gleason concerning his knowledge of Walter Bernstein. If you find that he is not cooperative, the interview should be terminated. If he is cooperative in furnishing information about Bernstein, you can then question Gleason further about his own Communist activity as well as his knowledge of Communist Party and related activity.

This interview must be well-planned and care taken so as not to compromise [redacted] In conducting this interview you should be guided by existing Bureau instructions relating to interviews of security subjects. (S)

b1

cc - 1 - New York (100-56664)

cc - 100-165971

WBW:b1b

10/20/03
CLASSIFIED BY 60267NLS/BAW/RY/AAG
EXEMPT FROM GDS
10/20/25

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
AUG 1 1953
MAILED

281
63 AUG 26 1953

~~SECRET~~

RECEIVED

JUL 16 1953

Director FBI (100-352390)

SAC, New York (65-15662)

WALTER BERNSTEIN, was
ESPIONAGE - R

Rebulet 6/19/53 advising that [redacted] b2
are two possible sources of information regarding [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed on 6/29/53 at New York but no new information b7D
was uncovered.

Concerning [redacted] A. GLEASON, subject of an Internal Security-C
case, bufile 100-165971: GLEASON promoted and published a monthly magazine
"Salute" beginning Feb. 1946, which was described by [redacted] b7C
[redacted] on 3/8/46 as being an "insidious hoax" and a means by
the Communist Party of infiltrating into "veterans organizations and to incite
veterans against our Government". He stated that "Salute" in its first issue
"followed the Communist line to the letter". It will be recalled that BERNSTEIN
was a writer for "Salute".

The World Telegram & Sun, a New York evening newspaper, in defense
against a suit for libel by GLEASON, filed a brief alleging that GLEASON
became a member of the Communist Party under the name of ALEXANDER LEV.

GLEASON was a member of the Executive Board of the Joint Anti-Fascist
Refugee Committee (JAFRC) and with 16 others was cited for contempt of Congress
on 4/16/46 for refusal to produce records of JAFRC for the House Committee on
Un-American Activities.

GLEASON resigned from JAFRC on 7/16/47 to purge himself of these
charges of contempt.

On 2/4/48 [redacted] advised that according to [redacted] b2
[redacted] of JAFRC, GLEASON had severed all relations with DR. EDWARD b7D
K. BANSKY, National Chairman of JAFRC, and had not spoken to him since the contempt b7C
sentences had been received. (BANSKY received 6 months and a \$500 fine).

LOUIS BUDENZ described GLEASON as a very active Communist in 1944
and 1945, advising the Communist Party on publication matters. He recalled that
he met GLEASON on several occasions as a Communist, notably twice at the home
of FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD.

GLEASON was formerly carried as a key figure in the NYO, but with
his severance of JAFRC associations, and the demise of "Reader's Scope", a
GLEASON publication established to fight "Reader's Digest" and to be a Communist
Party means of invading that field, he is no longer a key figure. The Security
Index card is still continued on GLEASON.

JGW:EAC

NOT RECORDED
AUG 19 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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10/20/03

WAS/NLS/BAW/PL

Letter to Director
NY 65-15852

The Report of SA [redacted] New York 6/1/53, at page 18 states that [redacted] of known reliability, advised that GLEASON is now definitely anti-Communist and can be approached.

b7C

b7D

LOUIS BERNZ who was re-interviewed by SA [redacted] re:

b2

b7C

It is recommended that [redacted] be interviewed re BERNSTEIN on the basis of [redacted] statement, and [redacted] alleged falling out with DR. BARSKY of JAFRC, both set out above. Our interest in BERNSTEIN can stem from his mention in "Red Channels" or other public record, and our real interest does not have to be disclosed. The interview can start with the new defunct "Salute" and move into BERNSTEIN as a "Salute" writer. Within minutes [redacted] ce-

b2

b7D

b2

b2

Bureau instructions in this regard are respectfully solicited.

Director, FBI (100-353390)

9/25/53

SAC, New York (65-15652)

WALTER BERNSTEIN, was
ESPIONAGE-R

Rebulet 8/13/53 authorizing interview with LEVERETT STONE
GLEASON.

GLEASON was interviewed on 9/23/53 by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] which interview was conducted in accordance with existing instructions relating to interviews of Security subjects. b7C b7D

GLEASON was cooperative during the interview and stated that he recalled WALTER BERNSTEIN as a writer for "New Yorker" magazine from whose conversation he appeared pro-Communist but GLEASON had no information regarding BERNSTEIN'S CP membership.

GLEASON could not recall any specific incidents to bear out GLEASON'S belief that BERNSTEIN was pro-Communist.

He stated that several years ago, at a time that he cannot recall, BERNSTEIN and two or three other men, names not recalled, approached him and suggested that he publish a magazine entitled, "Salute", which would be written along the style of "Yank", a US Army publication for GIs. GLEASON stated that BERNSTEIN appeared to be the spokesman for the group. He stated that, after the magazine was described to him, he thought it would be a good idea and might make some money so GLEASON consented to publish "Salute". He put in \$5,000.00. He stated that, when he saw the first issue, he was immediately of the opinion that the magazine was too "arty" and would not sell. He voiced his objections to BERNSTEIN but his objections were talked down. After about two or three issues, GLEASON saw that the magazine was a losing proposition and he stated that he wanted to get out of the venture. GLEASON stated that he was bought out by [redacted] and that within a year "Salute" went out of business. GLEASON stated that he has not seen or heard from WALTER BERNSTEIN since that time. b7C b7D

Concerning [redacted], Confidential Informants, who have been interviewed, have advised that he is a member of the CP and still appears to be quite loyal to the Party. b7C

1 - NY 100-56664

1 - [redacted]

JGW:KMC

b2

b7D

NOT RECORDED

10/20/53

NOT RECORDED

NOT RECORDED
196 OCT 19 1953

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Letter to Director
NY 65-15652

In view of GLEASON'S cooperativeness, he was questioned further about his own Communist activities.

GLEASON stated that, in the early 1930s, he believed that the Soviet Union was the answer to the world's problems and he was sympathetic to the Soviet Union. He stated that he joined the CP in 1936 or 1937 and remained a member for approximately two years. He stated that he became disillusioned with the Party with the Soviet-Nazi Pact in 1939 and thereafter had nothing to do with the Party.

In connection with the magazine, "Salute", he stated that FREDERICK WOLTMANN wrote an article stating that GLEASON had thought up a new magazine to be called "Salute" which he was going to use as a sounding board for Party doctrine among GIs. GLEASON stated that he was particularly incensed because the original idea for "Salute" was brought to him by WALTER BERNSTEIN and the two or three other men with BERNSTEIN and that the only reason GLEASON went into the venture was to make some money.

GLEASON stated that, when he was in the CP, he was known as LEV.

He stated that he is sympathetic to the work that the FBI is trying to perform but that he has no use for Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY.

He stated that, in his opinion, MC CARTHY is a "head-line hunter" and he contrasted this type of "sensationalism" with the attitude of Director J. EDGAR HOOVER toward his work. He stated that, in his opinion, the Director avoids "making headlines" and is performing much more constructive work along security lines than any other organization he has ever heard of.

GLEASON also stated that, in his opinion,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] In this connection,

b2

Letter to Director
NY 65-15652

it may be noted that LOUIS BUDENZ has advised this office that GLEASON was a very active Communist in 1944 and 1945, when GLEASON was advising the "Daily Worker" on its tabloid appearance and furnished advice to the CP on other publishing matters. It may well be that GLEASON'S comment concerning BUDENZ could be classified as a self-serving declaration. GLEASON also stated that, at one time, he published "Reader's Scope" and commented that this venture also cost him several thousand dollars. He stated that one time a man, who introduced himself as GERHART EISLER, came to see him at his office and stated that he was in a position to write articles on the international scene. GLEASON was looking for this type of article for his magazine and agreed to pay EISLER for any articles which GLEASON accepted and published. GLEASON stated that, as he recalls, EISLER thereafter submitted several articles two of which GLEASON accepted for publication and paid EISLER approximately \$50.00 a piece.

GLEASON stated that thereafter information was published in the newspapers that EISLER was an editor of "Reader's Scope". GLEASON stated that he called the newspaper which published this information for a retraction and was told that before the article was printed it had been reviewed and OK'd by EISLER himself. GLEASON stated that thereafter, during the deportation hearing of EISLER, he learned that EISLER claimed that he was editor of "Reader's Scope" in order to fill out his legitimate employment history while in the US. GLEASON stated that to top it all off, when the hearing was over, as MRS. EISLER passed GLEASON she looked at him and spit in his face.

The interview was concluded at this point
in view of other commitments of MR. GLEASON.

b2

Letter to Director
NY 65-1562

With regard to GLEASON'S background, which is more completely set out in a SM-C case on GLEASON, Bufile 100-165971, it is noted that GLEASON was born in Winchendon, Massachusetts, 2/25/98. He is married to MARGARET G. GLEASON and studied at Harvard College from 1916 to 1917. GLEASON has been in the publishing business practically his entire adult life from 1922 with the exception of his Army service in both World Wars.

SAC, New York (100-56664)

October 16, 1953

Director, FBI (100-165971)

LEVERETT STONE GLEASON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet dated September 25, 1953, captioned
"Walter Bernstein, was., Espionage - R."

Authority is granted to reinterview Gleason.
In conducting this interview you should be guided by
existing Bureau instructions relating to interviews
with security subjects.

The results of the interview should be
submitted under the above caption.

WJ:rac

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267 NIS/BAW/AG

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED-96

EX-118

OCT 19 1953

144

MAILED 8

OCT 16 1953

COMM - FBI

52 OCT 27 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-16597)

DATE: 1/5/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-56664)

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON
SM - C

Re NY letter dated 9/25/53 captioned "WALTER BERNSTEIN, was., ESPIONAGE - R" (Bufile 100-353390) and Bulet dated 10/16/53 in the captioned case which granted authority to reinterview GLEASON.

GLEASON was interviewed on 12/22/53 by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] concerning [redacted] Communist activities.

b7C
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b7D

As previously reported in relet 9/25/53, GLEASON stated that he joined the CP in 1936 or 1937 and left in approximately 1939, after the Soviet-Nazi Pact came into existence. He stated that during his membership he went to meetings for a short while somewhere on the Lower East Side of NYC. Thereafter, he moved over to a study group which spent its time on theoretical discussions. GLEASON stated that he never held any office during this time but that he has no recollection of any details concerning these groups, such as identities of members, officers, meetings, etc.

GLEASON stated that his break with Communism was not a thing which occurred overnight but was a gradual process being completed with the Soviet-Nazi Pact, mentioned above.

HANDLED

Re NY letter 9/25/53 reports that GLEASON stated

[redacted] GLEASON stated that he met him in the middle 1940's when BUDENZ was Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker". He recalled that the "Daily Worker" was changed to tabloid size and about 100 newspapermen and publishers were invited to a meeting to discuss this new size.

REGISTERED MAIL

1 - [redacted] b2

b7D

JGW:BOF

RECORDED - 50

INDEXED - 50

EX-126

10/20/03

602/TNLS/PAW/PLJ

Adm. Rept. 9/2/54

52 JAN 1954

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attached
filed
1-26-54

Letter to Director
NY 100-56664

GLEASON did not remember who invited him to the meeting, which was presided over by BUDENZ, but recalled that most of the comments about the tabloid size were complimentary, with the exception of GLEASON's own comment, wherein he took the position that the size of the "Daily Worker" was secondary, but that improved circulation depended primarily upon improvement of the quality of news coverage. GLEASON stated that he has not seen BUDENZ since the above-mentioned meeting.

Concerning the CP itself, GLEASON stated that he believed the party consisted of reformists who were motivated by a desire to improve social conditions of the common man. He characterized his description of the party as a group of "super new dealers".

He stated that he does not believe this today and refused to give his present opinion, stating that he has no opinion of the party's purposes, since his complete divorcement with party philosophy from about 1940 to date, would prevent him from having an opinion. He stated that at no time as a member did he ever believe that the organization had revolutionary aims and purposes.

Concerning "Reader's Scope" formerly edited by GLEASON, he stated that sometime in the early 1940's another publisher b7C then in the same building where GLEASON maintained his office (114 East 32nd St., NYC) whose name was [redacted] approached GLEASON with the idea of "Reader's Scope". According to GLEASON, [redacted] had made a lot of money publishing "trashy" and "leg art" magazines and wanted to get on to a higher plane in the publishing field.

GLEASON agreed to go in on the venture because he thought he could make some money out of it, and HOWARD FAST b7C was engaged by [redacted] "Reader's Scope". FAST was chosen, according to GLEASON, because his name was becoming well known as the author of "Citizen Tom Paine" and other works.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60320NKG/BAW/plg

Letter to Director
NY 100-56664

GLEASON stated that trouble between him and FAST started since GLEASON saw the proofs of the first issue. The issue was almost completely filled with articles dealing with phases of the Jewish question such as persecution, advancement, history, destiny, etc.

GLEASON told FAST that the articles should be more diversified for greater reader appeal, thereupon FAST accused GLEASON of being anti-Semitic and as a result of the ensuing argument, FAST quit and GLEASON became Editor. The magazine lasted about five years and "folded" about 1948. GLEASON denied any knowledge of Communist influence in the "Reader's Scope" or that any of the writers employed on the staff were party members.

GLEASON further stated that he really did not know if anyone was a party member to his own knowledge, that he may have "guessed" a person's political philosophy through things that person stated or his reaction to a set of circumstances, but that he did have no actual knowledge of anyone's membership or other Communist activity.

[redacted] mentioned above, is mentioned in the files of NY as being on a list of businessmen, which list was evidently prepared for solicitation in the March to June, 1945 campaign of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (JAFRC) which has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. b7C

Regarding the JAFRC, GLEASON stated that one time (GLEASON states he is very poor on remembering dates) his friend and personal physician, Dr. EDWARD BARSKY, told him about the JAFRC and said that it was set up to collect funds for the relief of Spanish refugees, which funds were to be administered by the Unitarians and Quakers. Dr. BARSKY

Letter to Director
NY 100-56664

asked GLEASON to become a member of the Executive Board. GLEASON agreed, both out of his friendship for BARSKY and also out of sympathy for the plight of Spanish refugees.

This state of mind existed, as far as GLEASON was concerned, until the trial of the JAFRC for contempt, which it will be recalled ended for GLEASON with his resignation from JAFRC on 7/16/47.

GLEASON stated that this trial brought several things to his attention. First, it appeared to him that Dr. BARSKY and the majority of the committee welcomed the trial as a chance to become martyrs. Secondly, the desire to lose the case was shown by the introduction of minutes of the committee meetings by the defense of which GLEASON had no recollection, which minutes actually strengthened the government's case rather than the defendant's case, to the consternation of Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, defense attorney.

Next, people were listed as members of the Executive Board, whom GLEASON had never known to be members, such as HOWARD FAST, who according to GLEASON, had never attended a Board meeting.

Finally, after the verdict GLEASON suggested that the committee's books be turned over to the HCUA. This suggestion was met with vehement opposition by Dr. BARSKY, et al and since that time GLEASON and BARSKY have not been friends.

GLEASON stated that he did not believe at first that the HCUA was entitled to know the names of contributors to the JAFRC, but with the verdict he reversed his position in proper compliance therewith, and it was this which prompted his suggestion to turn over JAFRC books to the HCUA.

Letter to Director
NY 100-56664

GLEASON was asked if he knew any Communists and he replied that he did not know any of his own knowledge. He "guessed" that [redacted] 124

[redacted]
He also "guessed" that [redacted] because of his actions in the JAFRC trial and afterwards, but he stated that he knew nothing "for certain".

b2

In conclusion it may be stated that GLEASON is careful "to walk a tight rope" when he talks. He studiously avoids anything which would cast doubt on his premise that he was in the party originally for the uplift and betterment of mankind, and that since 1939 or 1940 he has been completely separated from any party activity.

GLEASON's fear of involvement is based, in part at least, on a possibly adverse effect which might result to his earning power.

[redacted]
The case will be maintained in a P* status awaiting Bureau approval of this recommendation.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-165971)

DATE: 2/11/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-56664)

SUBJECT: LEVERETT STONE GLEASON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Enclosed herewith are five copies of the report of SA [redacted] dated 2/11/54, at New York, New York, in the above captioned matter, which places this investigation in a closed status. b7C

New York letter to the Bureau, 1/5/54 suggested that GLEASON's name be deleted from the Security Index Program and stated break with the Communist Party. The Bureau notified New York that the Security Index card on GLEASON was cancelled, 2/1/54. Accordingly, GLEASON's name has also been removed from the Security Index Program at New York. b2

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

(S) b1

10/20/03

60267NRS/BAW/PLG/4

10/20/28

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/03 BY 60267NRS/BAW/PLG/4

Encls. 5

RECORDED - 68

RM

EX-126

FEB 11 1954

JGW:AOB

10/20/03

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

AOB

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK | DATE WHEN MADE 2/11/54 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/23; 12/22/53; 1/25-28/54 | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="text-align: right;">b7C</div> |
| TITLE LEVERETT STONE GLEASON | | | CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C |
| <p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GLEASON resides Chappaqua, NY. Operates Lev Printing Company, Pleasantville, NY, and Lev Gleason Publications, NYC. Formerly published "New Castle News" which suspended publication 9/29/51. Interviewed 9/23/53 and 12/22/53; admitted CP membership for approximately two year period beginning 1936 or 1937. In CP he was known as "LEV". Disillusioned with party with Soviet-Nazi Pact in 1939 and thereafter had nothing to do with party. GLEASON's explanations of other activities set out.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS ADDRESSES</u></p> <p> of known reliability, advised that GLEASON continues to reside at 73 Park Drive, Chappaqua, New York.</p> <p>Chief JAMES COTLER, Police Department, Chappaqua, New York, advised that GLEASON operates the Lev Printing Company, Bedford Road and Marble Avenue, Pleasantville, New York.</p> <p>The current Manhattan telephone directory has the listing for the Lev Gleason Publications as 114 East 32nd Street.</p> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: 0; transform: rotate(90deg); font-size: small;">4-2-1 RAB + State 2/23/54 In D.H. - hu 10/20/63 Per letter dated 10/21/65</div> | | | |
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> | | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES DESTROYED COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-165971) (RM) 3 - New York (100-56664) | | 100-145771- <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">H-X</div> | RECORDED - 68 INDEXED 68 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">EX-126</div> |
| COPY IN FILE | | | |

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16-50255-2

~~SECRET~~

NY 100-56664

telephone number MU 3-0722.

In connection with GLEASON's business the "Reporter Dispatch" newspaper, White Plains, New York, announced that the "New Castle News", LEVERETT STONE GLEASON, publisher, suspended publication on September 29, 1951. The article described GLEASON as the sole owner who pointed to printing facility difficulties as one of the main causes for suspension of publication.

ASSOCIATES

b2 [redacted] of known reliability, who is unavailable for
b7D testimony, advised on February 7, 1952 that [redacted]

b7C [redacted] New York City, New York, had a card index
of persons who did business with Vogue or to whom former
letters had been sent by [redacted] stating he was in the travel
business and would appreciate their patronage. Listed among
these persons was LEV GLEASON Publications, 114 East 32nd
Street, New York City (MU 3-0722).

b2 [redacted] of known reliability, advised on May 27, 1947 that
b7C he knows [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

b2 [redacted] another Government agency which maintains
b7C personnel records, advised in February 1941 that [redacted] was
employed as a clerk for "New Masses". At that time [redacted]
stated that he had been employed by that organization for the
past four years.

Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE in the Congressional
Record of September 24, 1942, page 7688, advised that "New
Masses" was a "Communist periodical."

b2 [redacted] advised in 1943 that [redacted] stated that he had
b7C been employed since April 1942 by the Veterans of the
Abraham Lincoln Brigade. At that time [redacted] stated that his
wife had been employed until October 1940 by the International
Workers Order as a stenographer.

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The Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the International Workers Order have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b2

[redacted] of known reliability, made available in 1943 a letterhead of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade which under the heading of "National Officers" appeared the name of [redacted]

b7D

b7C

[redacted] of known reliability, advised in April 1949 that [redacted] was still [redacted]

b2

[redacted] Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

b7C

[redacted] of known reliability, advised in January 1951 that [redacted] was no longer employed by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

b2

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[redacted] another Government agency which conducts security and intelligence investigations, advised in June 1942 that [redacted] sent greetings to the Second Soviet Anti-Fascist Youth Conference in Moscow, Russia.

b2

b7C

[redacted] of unknown reliability, advised on September 23, 1946, that [redacted] of the Action Committee to Free Spain Now.

b2

b7D

The Action Committee to Free Spain Now has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b7C

[redacted] of known reliability, advised on August 22, 1951 that [redacted] and [redacted] representative and correspondent respectively of the Tass News Agency in Washington, D.C., and New York, and [redacted] "Pravda" correspondent were going to travel to the San Francisco Japanese Peace Conference. Their reservations were made by the [redacted]

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NY 100-56664

The Tass News Agency is the official news agency of the Soviet Government and is registered with the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. as an agent of the Soviet Government.

"Pravda" is one of the leading Soviet newspapers published in Russia.

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that [redacted] was instrumental [redacted] from the International Workers Order, Council on African Affairs and Civil Rights Congress.

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Council on African Affairs and the Civil Rights Congress has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] of known reliability, who is unavailable for testimony, advised on November 9, 1953 that FREDERICKA MARTIN, 480 Central Park West, New York City, was in possession of a copy of a letter dated January 20, 1945 from MARTIN to LEV GLEASON in which she stated that she was enclosing an essay entitled "Notes on a Hero" which concerned one [redacted] and his activity in the Spanish Civil War.

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The letter, according to the informant, requested GLEASON to print "Notes on a Hero" in his publication "Readers Scope". The letter indicated that MARTIN did not know GLEASON but that she was forwarding "Notes on a Hero" at the suggestion of mutual friends.

The "New York World Telegram" for December 11, 1945 printed an article by FREDERICK WOLTMAN in which he described "Readers Scope" as a digest type magazine similar to "Readers Digest".

WOLTMAN described GLEASON as Editorial Director and pointed out that the foreign editor for "Readers Scope"

NY 100-56664

then was [REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED] of known reliability, advised on June 23, 1952 that on April 14, 1950 the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee jointly sponsored a Conference to Keep the Ban on Fascist Spain, held at the Hotel Capitol, New York City. The informant advised that [REDACTED] would speak at the conference on "Spain in the World Movement for Peace".

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The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[REDACTED] of known reliability, advised that [REDACTED] is

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[REDACTED] which have previously been described.

b7C

[REDACTED] advised that among the people who attended the above mentioned conference was FREDERICKA MARTIN, 408 Central Park West, New York City, representing the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

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b1

NY 100-56664

The North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] of known reliability, advised on April 5, 1951 that subject, GLEASON, is unknown to him.

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b7D

INTERVIEW WITH GLEASON

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that [redacted] is now definitely anti-Communist and could be approached for interview.

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GLEASON was interviewed on September 23, 1953 by SA [redacted] and the reporting agent. He stated that he maintains an office at 114 East 32nd Street, New York City, where he operates Lev Gleason Publications.

b7C

He stated that in the early 1930's he believed that the Soviet Union was the answer to the world's problems and he was sympathetic to the Soviet Union. He stated that he joined the Communist Party in 1936 or 1937 and remained a member for approximately two years. He stated that he became disillusioned with the Party with the Soviet-Nazi Pact in 1939, and thereafter had nothing to do with the Party. He stated that when he was with the Communist Party he was known as "LEV".

The article in the "New York World Telegram" for December 11, 1945 by FREDERICK WOLTMAN has been previously mentioned in connection with GLEASON's now defunct publication "Readers Scope". In this same article WOLTMAN explained that GLEASON "a pro-Communist fellow traveler planned to capitalize on the Army magazine 'Yank' by employing former servicemen who got it out and by imitating its format and style". The article stated that an investigation by the "New York World Telegram" disclosed that GLEASON was the promoter of a new monthly magazine called "Salute" due to be published in February, 1946.

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In this connection, GLEASON stated that several years ago at a time that he could not recall, WALTER BERNSTEIN, whom he remembered as a writer for "The New Yorker" magazine and two or three other men, names not recalled, approached him and suggested that he publish a magazine entitled "Salute" which would be written along the style of "Yank", a United States Army publication for GIs. GLEASON stated that BERNSTEIN appeared to be the spokesman for the group. He stated that after the magazine was described to him he thought that it would be a good idea and might make some money, so GLEASON consented to publish "Salute". He put in \$5,000.

He stated that when he saw the first issue he was immediately of the opinion that the magazine was too "arty" and would not sell. He stated his objections to BERNSTEIN but his objections were talked down. After about two or three issues, GLEASON saw that the magazine was a losing proposition and he stated that he wanted to get out of the venture. GLEASON stated that he was bought out by [redacted] and that within a year "Salute" went out of business.

b7C

GLEASON stated that he has not seen or heard from WALTER BERNSTEIN since that time.

He stated that he was particularly incensed with WOLTMAN's article which called him the promoter of "Salute" inasmuch as the original idea for "Salute" was brought to him by WALTER BERNSTEIN and the two or three other men with BERNSTEIN, and the only reason GLEASON stated he went into the venture was to make money.

Concerning WALTER BERNSTEIN, LOUIS F. BUDENZ, former Communist Party functionary until October 1945 and former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" an East Coast Communist newspaper, advised on June 21, 1950 that WALTER BERNSTEIN a former reporter for "Yank", and at that time a script writer for Columbia Broadcasting System was a loyal member of the Communist Party from approximately 1942 to 1945.

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BUDENZ also stated that it was BERNSTEIN who made the famous trip to see MARSHAL TITO of Yugoslavia to write him up favorably in the American soldiers paper just before BERNSTEIN quit as correspondent.

He stated that during BERNSTEIN's service as a correspondent he, BUDENZ, had been instructed several times by EUGENE DENNIS and JACK STACHEL, Communist Party functionaries, regarding the fact that BERNSTEIN was a loyal member of the Communist Party, in order that BUDENZ would be able to identify BERNSTEIN in connection with BUDENZ' work on the "Daily Worker".

It is noted that BERNSTEIN's article "A Yank Interviews TITO of Yugoslavia" was printed in the magazine section of the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker" for July 9, 1944.

Concerning [redacted] LOUIS F. BUDENZ advised that [redacted] was active in Chicago, Illinois, and in New York with the Communist Party, always rather successfully confusing the issue as to whether he was a Communist or not. BUDENZ advised that he knew [redacted] to be a member of the Communist Party. b7C

On February 2, 1949, [redacted] of known reliability, advised that [redacted] was on the Administrative Committee of the Kings County Committee of the American Labor Party, Fifth Annual Dinner, to be held February 16, 1949 at the Hotel St. George, Brooklyn, New York. b2 b7C

12/5 The "Daily Worker" issue of April 21, 1948, contained an article reflecting that MINEOLA INGERSOLL, wife of JEREMIAH INGERSOLL was on the Advisory Council of the New York State American Labor Party.

The American Labor Party was cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, report 1948, pages 40 and 41 as among "organizations that are victims of Communist domination."

NY 100-56664

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that the names b2
of [redacted] appear on a seating list
of the American Russian Institute Dinner, Waldorf Astoria b7C
Hotel, New York City, June 2, 1948.

The American Russian Institute has been designated
by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to
Executive Order 10450.

In connection with GLEASON's publication,
"Readers Scope" he recalled that information was published
in the newspapers that GERHARDT EISLER was an editor of
"Readers Scope". He stated that he called the newspaper
which published this information for a retraction and was
told that before the article was printed it had been
reviewed and "okayed" by EISLER himself.

GLEASON stated that thereafter during the deportation
hearings of EISLER he learned that EISLER claimed that he was
an editor of "Readers Scope" in order to fill out his
legitimate employment history while in the United States.
He stated that the truth of the matter was that at one time
a man who introduced himself as GERHARDT EISLER came to see him
at his office and stated that he was in a position to write
articles on the international scene. GLEASON was looking for
this type of article for his magazine and agreed to pay EISLER
for any articles which GLEASON accepted and published.
GLEASON stated that as he requested EISLER thereafter
submitted several articles, two of which GLEASON accepted for
publication and paid EISLER approximately \$50.00 a piece.

GERHARDT EISLER was interviewed on June 14, 1941
by a Board of Inquiry, Immigration and Naturalization Service,
and stated that his passage to the United States was paid
by the Spanish Refugee Aid Society, New York City (which
later became the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee), and
he arrived in New York City on the "SS Evangeline" on June 6,
1941.

The report of the House Un-American Activities

NY 100-56664

Committee, 80th Congress, December 31, 1948, describes EISLER as an important international Communist and representative of the Communist International.

LOUIS BUDENZ testified before the Committee that on a number of occasions EISLER had been in contact with [redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted]
according to the report of the Canadian Royal Commission.

b7C

The report also stated that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee furnished funds to EISLER during his stay in the United States.

The "Daily Worker" on February 18, 1947 reported that the Civil Rights Congress on that date wrote all Congressmen urging the defeat of any effort to have GERHARDT EISLER cited for Contempt of Congress.

[redacted] advised that on December 11, 1946, [redacted]
[redacted] Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln
Brigade, previously mentioned herein, addressed a meeting
at the Fraternal Club House, 110 West 48th Street, New York
City, at which he pledged support of the Veterans of the
Abraham Lincoln Brigade to the honorable repatriation of
GERHARDT EISLER.

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b7C

EISLER was convicted in the United States District Court on June 10, 1947 for Contempt of Congress and on June 27, 1947 was sentenced to one year in a Federal penitentiary. On August 15, 1947 he was convicted of Exit Visa Fraud in the United States District Court, Washington, D.C. and was released on \$20,000. bail. EISLER stowed away on the "M.S. Batory" which left New York May 6, 1949, bound for Gdynia. EISLER has not yet returned to the United States.

GLEASON was reinterviewed on December 22, 1953, by

NY 100-56664

SA [redacted] and the reporting agent. With regard to his membership in the Communist Party, he stated that during the approximate two year period ending in 1939, he went to meetings for a short time somewhere on the lower East Side of New York City. Thereafter he moved over to a study group which spent its time on theoretical discussions. GLEASON stated that he never held any office during this time and that he has no recollection of any details concerning these groups such as identities of members, officers, meetings, etc. b7C

GLEASON stated that his break with Communism was not a thing which occurred overnight, but was a gradual process being completed with the Soviet-Nazi Pact, previously mentioned.

LOUIS F. BUDENZ has advised that GLEASON was a very active Communist during 1944 and 1945, at which time he, GLEASON, advised the "Daily Worker" on its tabloid appearance and also furnished advice to the Communist Party on other publication matters.

Concerning BUDENZ, GLEASON stated that he met him in the middle 1940's when BUDENZ was Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker", and he recalls that the "Daily Worker" was changed to tabloid size and about 100 newspaper men and publishers were invited to a meeting to discuss this new size. GLEASON did not remember who invited him to the meeting which was presided over by BUDENZ but recalled that most of the comments about the tabloid size were complimentary with the exception of GLEASON's own comment wherein he took the position that the size of the "Daily Worker" was secondary, but that improved circulation depended primarily upon improvement of the quality of news coverage. GLEASON stated that he has not seen BUDENZ since the above mentioned meeting.

Concerning the Communist Party itself, GLEASON stated that he formerly believed the party consisted of reformists who were motivated by a desire to improve social conditions of

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the common man. He characterized his description of the party as a group of "super new dealers". He stated that he does not believe this today, but refused to give his present opinion, stating that he has no information of the party's purpose since his complete divorcement with party philosophy from about 1940 to date, which would prevent him from having an opinion. He stated that at no time as a member did he ever believe that the organization had revolutionary aims and purposes.

Concerning "Readers Scope", previously mentioned, b7C he stated that sometime in the early 1940's another publisher then in the same building where GLEASON maintains his office (114 East 32nd Street, New York City), whose name was [redacted] approached GLEASON with the idea of "Readers Scope". According to GLEASON, [redacted] had made a lot of b7C money publishing "trashy" and "leg art" magazines and wanted to get on to a higher plane in the publishing field.

GLEASON agreed to go in on the venture because he thought he could make some money out of it and HOWARD FAST was engaged by [redacted] "Readers Scope". FAST was chosen according to GLEASON because his name was becoming well known as the author of "Citizen Tom Paine" and other b7C works.

GLEASON stated that trouble between him and FAST started as soon as GLEASON saw the proofs of the first issue. The issue was almost completely filled with articles dealing with phases of the Jewish question such as persecution, advancement, history, destiny, etc.

GLEASON told FAST that the articles should be more diversified for greater reader appeal and thereupon FAST accused GLEASON of being anti-Semitic. As a result of the ensuing argument FAST quit and GLEASON became editor.

The magazine lasted about five years and "folded" about 1948.

GLEASON denied any knowledge of Communist influence

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in the "Readers Scope" or that any of the writers employed on the staff were party members.

Concerning [redacted] of known reliability, who is unavailable for testimony, advised that the name of [redacted] appears on a list of businessmen, which was evidently prepared for solicitation in the March to June 1945 campaign of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. b2 b7D b7C

Concerning HOWARD FAST, [redacted], previously mentioned, advised that FAST was known to him as a member of the Communist Party. b2 b7D

[redacted] advised that FAST is active in the affairs of the American Peace Crusade. b2

With regard to the American Peace Crusade, it is noted that on July 31, 1953, according to [redacted] of known reliability the Attorney General of the United States forwarded a notice to the American Peace Crusade containing the statement of the charges upon which it is proposed to designate the American Peace Crusade, pursuant to Executive Order 10450, together with certain interrogations to be answered by the American Peace Crusade. b2

By letter dated September 29, 1953, the American Peace Crusade replied to the Attorney General's notice and stated that the American Peace Crusade had decided not to answer the interrogations or to participate in a hearing of the Attorney General because among other reasons the American Peace Crusade considered the entire proceedings to be unconstitutional since the rules of procedure under Executive Order 10450 do not in the judgment of the American Peace Crusade satisfy the due process clause of the constitution and provide only a semblance of a hearing.

Regarding the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee of which GLEASON was formerly a member of the Board of Directors,

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N.Y. C.P.
GLEASON stated that at one time his friend and personal physician, Doctor EDWARD BARSKY, told him about the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and said that it was set up to collect funds for the relief of the Spanish refugees which funds were to be administered by the Unitarians and Quakers.

Doctor BARSKY asked GLEASON to become a member of the Executive Board. GLEASON agreed, both out of his friendship for BARSKY and also out of sympathy for the plight of Spanish refugees.

This state of mind existed as far as GLEASON was concerned until the trial of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee for contempt.

[] of known reliability, advised that the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee sponsored a rally at Madison Square Garden on September 24, 1945. At this rally LEVERETT GLEASON editor of "Readers Scope" contributed \$1,000.

b2

b7D

The "Reporter Dispatch" a White Plains, New York newspaper announced on April 1, 1947 that a United States District Grand Jury convening at Washington, D.C. on March 31, 1947, had indicted sixteen members of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee who had been identified as the governing body of that organization. According to the article the Grand Jury indictment accused the group of conspiring to prevent the House Committee on Un-American Activities from gaining access to the records of the organization and failing to produce the records before the committee. Among those indicted as members of the governing body was LEVERETT S. GLEASON.

The "Daily Worker" issue of July 17, 1947, reported that eleven of the leaders of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee were sentenced July 16, 1947 to prison terms of from three to six months and fined \$500. in the United States

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District Court, Washington, D.C. on a charge of being in contempt of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. According to the article, five others including GLEASON were given a three months suspended sentence and fined in the amount of \$500. These latter individuals, according to the article, expressed their willingness to surrender the books of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee to the House Committee on Un-American Activities, but stated that it was not within their power to do this.

The article states that these latter five paid their fines and indicated to the court that they had no intention of appealing, and further advised the judge that they had resigned as directors of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee in June 1947.

GLEASON stated that this trial brought several things to his attention. First, it appeared to him that Doctor BARSKY and the majority of the committee welcomed the trial as a chance to become martyrs. Second, the desire to lose the case was shown by the introduction of minutes of the committee meeting by the defense of which GLEASON had no recollection, which minutes actually strengthened the Government's case rather than the defendant's case to the consternation of Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, defense attorney. Next, people were listed as members of the Executive Board whom GLEASON had never known to be members, such as HOWARD FAST, who according to GLEASON, had never attended a board meeting. Finally, after the verdict GLEASON suggested that the committee's books be turned over to the House Committee on Un-American Activities. This suggestion was met with vehement opposition by Doctor BARSKY et al and since that time, GLEASON and BARSKY have not been friends.

GLEASON stated that he did not believe at first that the House Committee on Un-American Activities was entitled to know the names of contributors to the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, but with the verdict he reversed his position in proper compliance therewith, and it was this which prompted his suggestion to turn over Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee books to the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

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Concerning Doctor BARSKY, LOUIS F. BUDENZ, previously mentioned, advised that BARSKY has been one of the most devoted Communists not officially connected with the Communist Party. BARSKY performed various operations for cancer on JACK JOHNSTONE, member of the National Committee, Communist Party, USA.

BUDENZ met BARSKY in a hospital while he was attending JOHNSTONE in 1942 and BARSKY at that time greeted BUDENZ as comrade and on this occasion discussed the Communist Party and its work with BUDENZ.

BUDENZ also met BARSKY on a couple of other occasions on the ninth floor of Communist Party Headquarters, then located at 35 East 12th Street, New York City, when BARSKY was reporting to the Politburo concerning the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

BUDENZ has heard BARSKY referred to as a surgeon for Communist Party members who performed services for them either at no cost or a very reduced cost. This information came to BUDENZ' attention during a conference in which he participated concerning the advantage of health insurance for the staff of the "Daily Worker".

[redacted] of known reliability, advised on April 19, 1953 that Doctor BARSKY is a member of the Resident Executive Board of the American Peace Crusade and one of the most important leaders of the American Peace Crusade, which has been previously mentioned. b2 b7D

GLEASON was asked if he knew any Communists and he replied that he did not know any of his own knowledge; that he may have "guessed" a person's political philosophy through things that person stated or his reaction to a set of circumstances, but that he had no actual knowledge of anyone's membership or other Communist activity. For example, he "guessed" that FREDERICK VANDERBILT-FIELD whom he states he has not seen in fifteen years was a Communist because FIELD wrote articles

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for the "Daily Worker". He also "guessed" that Doctor BARSKY was a Communist because of his actions in the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee trial and afterwards, but stated that he knew nothing for certain.

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[REDACTED]
Pretext
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REFERENCES

New York letters to the Bureau, 7/16/53 and 9/25/53 and Bureau letter to New York, 8/13/53 in case captioned "WALTER BERNSTEIN, was; ESPIONAGE - R" (Bufile 100-353390).

Bureau letter to New York, 10/16/53.

New York letter to Bureau, 1/5/54.

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12/26/57

AIRTEL

CLASSIFIED BY 606715/ACE/1
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-1-98

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-406659)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-103389)
SUBJECT: MORRIS COHEN, was.
LONA COHEN, was.
ESP-R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (c) b1

A review of the NYO file on LEV GLEASON reveals that he was a former official of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (JAFRC) who was cited for contempt of Congress for refusal to produce financial records of the JAFRC upon request. GLEASON purged himself of contempt by submitting to the request of the Congressional Committee inquiring into the activities of the JAFRC. Subsequently, GLEASON was interviewed by Bureau Agents. He promised his cooperation with the FBI and stated the events which followed the JAFRC matter opened his eyes to the true state of affairs.

UACB by 1/2/58. NYO will interview GLEASON for information concerning [REDACTED] and MORRIS and LONA COHEN. b7C

3-Bureau (100-406659) (RM)
1-New York 100-56664 (LEV GLEASON)
1-New York 100-44737 [REDACTED] b7C
1-New York 100-75323 (REGINALD WILSON)
1-New York (100-103389)

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NY 100-103389

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A review of the Bronx Telephone Directory reveals that HARRY COHEN, 2020 Walton Ave., Bronx, is the subscriber to SE 3-1490.

[redacted] Bronx, advised that she knew HARRY COHEN'S [redacted]

b7C

The above establishes contact between the subject's family and the [redacted] family.

File review reveals that one REGINALD THOMAS WILSON was a member of the Industrial Branch of the CP during the same period as MORRIS COHEN was a member of that branch.

A review of WILSON'S file discloses that on 3/3/55 he appeared at the NYO and advised that he desired to cooperate with the FBI concerning information in his possession regarding the CP.

WILSON stated he worked as a waiter in various hotels in NYC from 1933 - 1938. In 1938 he became Business Agent for the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local #6. He was employed by the union until 7/2/53.

WILSON advised he joined the CP in 1938 and became a member of the Industrial Branch. He allegedly withdrew from the CP in 1939 but continued to attend meetings with CP members until 1947. He stated one [redacted] and [redacted] were CP members with him.

b7C

NY 100-103389

WILSON was arrested on 12/29/53 on charges of "coercion under threat of death." The trial was held 1/25/54 and 2/1/54 in Court of Special Sessions, NY. He was found guilty and was sent to Bellevue Hospital for psychiatric treatment. He stated Bellevue doctors found him mentally normal. His arrest was a result of a complaint signed by [redacted] and [redacted] against whom WILSON instituted a civil suit. b7C

WILSON was born 1/22/08 at Portsmouth, England, is 6'1½" tall, weighs 190 pounds, has grey hair, grey eyes, and is a white male.

UACB by 1/2/58, NYO will interview WILSON for info he may have concerning subjects.

In view of fact that LA has interviewed [redacted] NYO will interview [redacted] and conduct investigation at the Rosword Club. b7C

POWERS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1
Page 49 ~ Referral/Direct